

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BANGKO 07292 241221Z

42

ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 OC-05 CCO-00 /017 W

----- 027223

R 241149Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3305

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 7292

DEPT FOR SY/FO AND OC

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT: FAILURE TO SAFEGUARD POUCH BY NON PRO COURIER

1. ON THIS DATE RSO WAS NOTIFIED THAT CHARLES JONES, JR., COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS, SAIGON, ASSIGNED AS NON PROFESSIONAL COURIER, DID NOT MAINTAIN CONTROL OF POUCHES ENTRUSTED TO HIS CARE.
2. JONES WAS QUESTIONED BY RSO AND ACTING BRDCO AND RELATED THE FOLLOWING: ON APRIL 23, 1975 HE HAD BEEN ASSIGNED BY CRO ROBERT BELL, AMERICAN EMBASSY, SAIGON, TO DELIVER TWO CLASSIFIED POUCHES (X42737 AND X42675) TO BANGKOK TO BE FORWARDED TO MANILA.
3. ON APRIL 24, 1975, JONES PICKED UP THE TWO POUCHES AND THE NON PRO COURIER LETTER SIGNED BY THE DCM AND BOARDED CHINA AIRLINES FLIGHT 817 WHICH DEPARTED SAIGON AT 1400 HOURS (LOCAL TIME) AND ARRIVED BANGKOK AT 1430 HOURS (LOCAL TIME).
4. SAIGON TELEGRAPHICALLY NOTIFIED BRDCO TO MEET JONES PLANESIDE.
5. JONES STATED THAT UPON ARRIVAL HE WENT TO THE CARGO UNLOADING SIDE OF THE AIRCRAFT TO RESUME CONTROL OF THE CLASSIFIED POUCHES. HE WAS TOLD TO CLEAR THE AREA AND THAT THE POUCHES COULD BE PICKED UP WHERE THE LUGGAGE IS UNLOADED. HE LEFT THE AREA AND PROCEEDED TO THE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BANGKO 07292 241221Z

LUGGAGE PICKUP LOCATION IN THE TERMINAL WHERE HE AWAITED

THE ARRIVAL OF THE POUCHES.

6. SHORTLY THEREAFTER HE WAS CONTACTED BY TOM SCHMOEGER, BRDCO COURIER, WHO HAD BEEN ASSIGNED PICKUP/ESCORT. SCHMOEGER WAS INTERVIEWED AND STATED THAT AT 1435 HOURS HE WAS AT THE PLANESIDE PARKING AREA. AS SOON AS THE PLANE STOPPED AND THE CARGO HATCH WAS OPENED, HE ASSUMED CONTROL OF THE POUCHES. THUS, THE CONTINUITY OF CONTROL OF THE POUCHES WAS UNBROKEN. HE UNLOADED THE POUCHES FROM THE AIRCRAFT AND PLACED THEM IN THE AIRLINE'S BUS AND ACCOMPANIED THEM TO THE PARKING LOT WHERE THE EMBASSY VEHICLE WAS PARKED. HE LOADED THE TWO POUCHES INTO THE VEHICLE AND DROVE BY THE FRONT OF THE AIRPORT BUILDING WHERE HE MET NON PRO COURIER JONES, WHO WAS OUTSIDE THE TERMINAL BUILDING AT THIS TIME. THEY BOTH THEN RETURNED TO THE EMBASSY BUILDING WHERE THE POUCHES WERE PLACED UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE DIPLOMATIC POUCHROOM.

7. INSPECTION OF THE POUCH SEALS AND BAGS SHOW NO SIGN OF TAMPERING AND DUE TO THE CONTINUITY OF CONTROL BY USG PERSONNEL, THERE IS NO REASON TO FEEL THAT THESE POUCHES WERE COMPROMISED.

8. THIS SITUATION CLEARLY POINTS OUT THE NEED FOR PROPER SECURITY AND POUCH INSTRUCTIONS TO BE ISSUED TO ALL NON PROFESSIONAL COURIERS.
MASTERS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: RowellE0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BANGKO07292
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750144-0240
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750418/aaaaaqof.tel
Line Count: 88
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SY
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: RowellE0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 JUL 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <19 NOV 2003 by RowellE0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FAILURE TO SAFEGUARD POUCH BY NON PRO COURIER
TAGS: ASEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006